
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONSIDER OFFERING CREDIT
TOWARD SALARY FOR CERTAIN PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WHEN HIRING
TEACHERS FOR SHORTAGE AREAS IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Education is responsible for
2 ensuring that all public school students in Hawaii are supported
3 so that they may succeed socially, emotionally, academically,
4 and physically to meet the challenges of their school community;
5 and

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7 WHEREAS, in accordance with Board of Education policy 2205,
8 deaf students have the right to qualified specialists trained in
9 the student's chosen mode of communication; and

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11 WHEREAS, these specialist teacher positions in Hawaii often
12 remain vacant for extended periods of time, leaving students
13 with inadequate educational services for proper learning and
14 development; and

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16 WHEREAS, an oral, deaf, and hard of hearing specialist
17 position on Hawaii island has remained vacant for over a year,
18 leaving students with cochlear implants without appropriate
19 services; and

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21 WHEREAS, the Department of Education faces difficulty in
22 hiring educational specialists for positions in shortage areas
23 throughout the State due to statutory pay scale restrictions
24 that do not credit incoming teachers for previous experience
25 gained outside the State; and

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27 WHEREAS, if the Department of Education offered credit
28 toward salary for previous practical experience, there would
29 likely be an increase in qualified applicants with the necessary



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1 training, skills, and experience to fill positions in
2 department-identified shortage areas; now, therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
6 Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature
7 urges the Department of Education to consider offering credit
8 toward salary for certain practical experience when hiring
9 teachers for specialist positions in shortage areas identified
10 by the Department; and

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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
13 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of
14 Education, the Chairperson of the Board of Education, and the
15 President of the Hawaii State Teachers Association.

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18 OFFERED BY:

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